

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Owners of property repeatedly targeted by graffiti vandals and looking for cost-effective solutions should investigate CPTED techniques. In Portland, they can receive free consultation from Crime Prevention Program Coordinators by contacting city/county information and referral (503-823-4000) and asking to be connected to the Crime Prevention Coordinator for their area.

Some examples of CPTED are shown in photos:



Planting fast growing, low-maintenance, thorny bushes along sides of buildings is one method. “Rosa Rugosa” requires little attention once established.



Thorns of “Rosa Rugosa” are very intimidating



Installing lattice-work trellises on the side of the building to reduce “open space” attractiveness for vandalism is another.

Planting vines to climb the trellis will further discourage graffiti.

Improved lighting, security cameras, and murals are other strategies that have been used successfully to “target-harden” vulnerable properties.

As always, it is important to document (photograph), report, and remove graffiti as soon as possible after it occurs. (Within 10 days, per Portland City Code 14B.80)

Graffiti Hotline: 503-823-4824 or

Online reports: <http://www.portlandonline.com/index.cfm?c=32305>